This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations and is not a part of the Official Record

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning documents will not correct images, please do not report the images to the Image Problem Mailbox.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

ATTY DKT NO.:

P-7988

SERIAL NO.: 10/623,222

EXAMINER:

FILED:

July 21, 2003

Karl Gramling

TITLE: Gutter Retaining System

ART UNIT NO.:

TO:

Mail Stop PETITION Commissioner for Patents

Post Office Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTN: E. Shirene Willis

PETITION TO OBTAIN ORIGINAL FILING DATE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.53(e)

Applicant hereby petitions to receive the original filing date of July 21, 2003. The drawings at issue were submitted with the original application on July 21, 2003.

On December 12, 2003, Applicant received a Notice of Incomplete Nonprovisional Application (dated December 8, 2003) stating that the application was deposited without drawings and therefore a filing date was not accorded to the application. On December 18, 2003, Applicant submitted a Response to Notice of Incomplete Nonprovisional Application, which included another original set of the originally submitted drawings. On April 21, 2004, Applicant received a decision dismissing a petition because a \$130.00 petition fee was not submitted with the response, which was not a petition.

Applicant now petitions to obtain the original filing date and has enclosed sufficient evidence to establish Applicant's entitlement to the original filing date. This evidence establishes prior receipt in the USPTO of the drawings at issue. This evidence includes the following: (1) Certificate of Mailing dated July 17, 2003; and (2) returned postcard from the USPTO dated July 21, 2003. The Certificate of Mailing and the postcard both indicate that three pages of drawings were enclosed. The USPTO acknowledged receipt of the drawings on the return postcard on July 21, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

GUNN & LEE, P.C. 700 North St. Mary=s Street, Suite 1500 San Antonio, TX 78205-3596 (210) 886-9500 (210) 886-9883

By:

Michelle L. Evans Reg. No. 44,673

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the "Mail Stop PETITION, Commissioner for Patents, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, ATTN: E. Shirene Willis", as follows:

	37 CFR 1.8(a)	37 CFR 1.10
[]	With sufficient postage as First Class Mail.	[] As "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee", Mailing Label No. <u>をいるの名6445745.</u>
	Date:, 2004	Date: <u>28 May</u> , 2004

Printed Name of Person Mailing Paper or Fee

Signature of Person Mailing Paper or Fee

G:\TDL\GramlingKarl\P-7988\Petition Filing Date.doc



RECEIV IN THE U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

AUG 0 1 2003

P-7988 tty: MLE

Applicant Name: Title:

Karl J. Gramling Gutter Retaining System

The date stamp and serial number of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office will acknowledge receipt of the Utility Patent Application Transmittal; Fee Transmittal for FY 2003; Patent Application Fee Determination Record; Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney (6 pages); Information Disclosure Statement with Cited Reference; Patent Application (17 pages) with Drawings (3 pages); Certificate of Mailing; and Filing fee in the amount of \$375.



Of Counsel: Kenneth A. Keeling[†] James E. Hudson III[†] Kimberly Dinkins[†]

GUNN & LEE, P.C.

Attorneys at Law

700 N. St. Mary's Street, Suite 1500 San Antonio, Texas 78205 Telephone: (210) 886-9500 Facsimile: (210) 886-9883

> E-mail: «Email»@gunn-lee.com Web Site: www.gunn-lee.com

- * Board Certified -Civil Trial Law
- ° Patent Agent Consultant

[†]Houston, Texas, Office (713) 680-1447

C. Donald Gunn (1936-1999)

P7988

May 28, 2004

Mail Stop PETITION Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 ATTN: E. Shirene Willis

RE: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/623,222 entitled "Gutter Retaining System"

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find the following items for filing on the above referenced patent:

- 1. Petition to Obtain Original Filing Date Under 37 CFR §1.53(e)
- 2. Original Postcard
- 3. Original Certificate of Mailing

Authorization is hereby given to Charge Account No. 500808 for the petition fee of \$130 and any applicable surcharges that may apply. Please stamp the enclosed acknowledgment card with the date of receipt and return to my office.

Sincerely,

Michelle L. Evans

ulille & Erais

Enclosures

MLE/mb









GUNN, LEE & HANOR ATTORNEYS AT LAW 700 N. ST. MARY'S, SUITE 1500 SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78205-3598

78205+1307 Mallahahllhahhahlallahahllhahahl



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450," as follows:

37 CFR 1.8(a)	37 CFR 1.10
With sufficient postage as First Class Mail.	[] As "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee", Mailing Label No.
Date: <u>July 17</u> , 2003	Date:, 2003

Documents Enclosed:

- 1. Utility Patent Application Transmittal;
- 2. Fee Transmittal for FY 2003;
- 3. Patent Application Fee Determination Record;
- 4. Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney (6 pages);
- 5. Information Disclosure Statement with Cited Reference;
- 6. Patent Application (17 pages) with Drawings (3 pages);
- 7. Acknowledgment Postcard; and
- 8. Filing fee in the amount of \$375.

Printed Name of Person Mailing Paper or Fee

Signature of Person Mailing Paper or Fee